



Kent County Veterans Services

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DRAFT minutes 11-7-19

Present: Mel Bauman, Mary Johnson, Trish Sexton, John Baxter, Harold Mast, Shane Scherer,
Randy Tharp

Absent:

Guests: Dan Ophoff, Theresa Robinson, Pamela Artist

1. Meeting called to Order – The meeting was called to order by Veterans Services Committee Chair Mel Bauman at 8:30am
2. Pledge of Allegiance – Committee Chair Mel Bauman led those in attendance to recite the Pledge of Allegiance.
3. Approval of Minutes –
 - a. Committee Vice Chair Mary Johnson made a motion to approve the minutes. UNANIMOUS
4. Introductions-
 - a. Artist Pamela Alderman
5. Managers, Monthly Operational Update Reports – Veterans Services Supervisor Ryan Grams went over the Monthly Activity Report
6. Presentations- Artist Pamela Alderman
7. Old Business –
 - a. Transportation issues
 - i. Still an ongoing conversation between Veterans Services Department and Kent County Community Action. Veterans Services has put out a transportation survey out through the end of November.
 - ii. There was a request to increase funds for Veterans Treatment Court
 - iii. MSU Extension office is still working on the gardening project of creating a hoop house
8. New Business- none
9. Survey Responses – 7
10. Around the Table- none
11. Public Comment –

- a. Paul Ryan with the United Veterans Council of Kent County wanted to remind everyone about the Veterans Day Parade, Committee Vice Chair Mary Johnson will be speaking.
 - b. Paul Ryan also wanted to let the committee know that the Marines Memorial Monument will be moved to its new site at the Grand Rapids Home for Veterans. There will be a rededication on November 23rd at 11am.
 - c. Anthony Torres from the Veterans Treatment Court wanted to announce the end of year graduation/celebration at Tommy Branns. They now have a 94% graduation rate.
12. Adjournment –Veterans Services Committee Chair Mel Bauman moved adjourned the meeting at 10:00am, there will be a 5 minute break and then a closed session for SSR Application review.
 - a. Application for a gas bill in the amount of \$930.00 was denied.
 - b. Application for rent in the amount of \$818.00 was approved.
13. The next Veterans Services Committee meeting will be held on Thursday, December 5th, at 8:30am in the Veterans Services front conference room.